Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for configuring a management module for use in monitoring operations associated with a computer system, the method comprising:

(a) prior to the management module being configured to monitor a plurality of components communicatively connected to the management module and analyze, based on the monitored plurality of components, whether an event has occurred in the computer system, detecting a first component of the plurality of components communicatively connected to the management module by querying a plurality of slave addresses, wherein the first component at a first slave address of the plurality of slave addresses is detected upon responding to the query, and wherein the first component senses and provides to the management module operational information relating to operations associated with the computer system;

(b) identifying a type of information provided by the detected first component;

(c) creating a configuration file specifying the type of information identified for the detected first component; [[and]]

(d) incorporating the configuration file into the management module such that the management module is configured to (i) receive the identified type of information from the detected first component and (ii) analyze, based on the identified type of information from the detected first component, whether an event has occurred in the computer system;

(e) defining a plurality of description files, each description file corresponding to a component which may be included within a configuration for the computer system, wherein the plurality of description files each specify a component classification for the component corresponding to each description file and the type of information that may be provided by the component;

wherein the identifying act (b) comprises

(b)(i) issuing an identification request on the first slave address, wherein the identification request commands the first component to respond with identification information associated with the first component,

(b)(ii) receiving the identification information from the first component, and

(b)(iii) analyzing the identification information against the plurality of description files to determine which of the plurality of description files corresponds to the first component.

2. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the management module is operable to communicate with the plurality of components of the computer system by way of a plurality of active slave addresses on a communication medium of the computer system, the plurality of active slave addresses being a subset of a plurality of possible slave addresses communicatively accessible to the management module by way of the communication medium, the detecting act (a) comprising:

(a)(i) transmitting a discovery request on each of the plurality of possible slave addresses; and

(a)(ii) responsive to the transmitting act, receiving an acknowledgement response from the first component indicating that the first component is communicatively accessible on a specific active slave address.

3. (Original) A method as defined in claim 2, wherein the receiving act (a)(ii) comprises:

receiving a plurality of acknowledgement responses from a specific plurality of the plurality of components, each acknowledgement response representing detection of each of the specific plurality of components on one of the plurality of active slave addresses, wherein the first component is one of the specific plurality of components and the specific active slave address is one of the plurality of active slave addresses on which at least one of the specific plurality of components is detected.

4. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 3, wherein the transmitting act (a)(i) comprises:

(a)(i)(I) issuing a discovery request on a possible slave address; and

(a)(i)(II) after a predetermined period in time has passed from which the discovery request was issued on the slave address, repeating the issuing act until each of the plurality of possible slave addresses have been pinged.

5. (Original) A method as defined in claim 4, wherein the detecting act (a) further comprises:

(a)(iii) in response to receiving the acknowledgement responses from each of the specific plurality of components, adding the active slave addresses from which the acknowledgement responses are received to a log file, wherein the log file, when complete, comprises a listing of each of the plurality of active slave addresses.

6. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in claim 5, wherein the identifying act (b) further comprises:

(b) [[(i)]] (iv) traversing the listing in the log file to extract therefrom an active slave address;

(b)[[(ii)]] (v) issuing an identification request to the extracted active slave address;

(b)[[(iii)]] (vi) receiving information from one of the specific plurality of components communicatively accessible on the extracted active slave address; and

(b)[[(iv)]] (vii) analyzing the received information to identify a type of information provided by the component communicatively accessible on the extracted active slave address.

7. (Original) A method as defined in claim 6, wherein the extracted active slave address is the specific active slave address and the one of the specific plurality of components is the first component.

8. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in claim 6, wherein the identifying act (b) further comprises:

(b)[[(v)]] (viii) repeating the traversing (b)[[(i)]] (iv), issuing (b)[[(ii)]] (v), receiving (b)[[(iii)]] (vi) and analyzing (b)[[(iv)]] (vii) act for each of the plurality of active slave

addresses included in the listing, wherein the configuration file is created by the creating act to specify the type of information identified for each of the specific plurality of components such that when the configuration file is incorporated into the management module, the management module is consequently operable to receive the identified types of information from each of the specific plurality of components.

9-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~claim 10~~ claim 1, wherein the creating act (c) comprises:

incorporating the description file corresponding to the first component into the configuration file.

12. (Original) A method as defined in claim 11, wherein the identification request is a standard request operable for commanding all components which may be communicatively connected to the management module to respond with identification information.

13-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~claim 9~~ claim 1, wherein the component classification for the first component is sensor and the type of information that may be provided to the management module by the first component is selected from the group consisting of voltages, currents, temperatures, velocity and acceleration.

18-30. (Cancelled)

31. (Previously Presented) A system for configuring a management module for use in monitoring operations associated with a computer system, the system comprising:

a processor;

a memory operatively coupled to the processor;

a configuration module which executes in the processor from the memory and which, when executed by the processor, causes the computer to:

discover previously undiscovered components that are communicatively accessible to the management module by way of a communication medium of the computer system prior to the management module being configured to monitor the components communicatively connected to the management module and analyze, based on the monitored components, whether an event has occurred in the computer system,

identify the discovered components by comparing the detected components with a plurality of description files each describing a component which may be communicatively connected to the management module, wherein each of the components detected and identified corresponds to one of the plurality of description files,

incorporate the description files corresponding to each of the detected and identified components into a configuration file, and

load the configuration file into the management module to provide the management module with an ability to receive operational information from the detected and identified components and analyze, based on the received operational information, whether an event has occurred in the computer system, wherein the operational information relates to operations associated with the computer system.

32. (Previously Presented) A system as defined in claim 31, wherein the management module sends commands to and receives operational information from each accessible component by way of an associated slave address on the communication medium, wherein each slave address associated with an accessible component is an active slave address in a set of possible slave addresses on the communication medium.

33. (Previously Presented) A system as defined in claim 32, wherein the configuration module which, when executed by the processor, further causes the computer to ping each of the possible slave addresses with a discovery request and subsequently thereafter receive an acknowledgement response from each of the components accessible on the active slave addresses, wherein the acknowledgement responses represent detection of the components.

34. (Previously Presented) A system as defined in claim 33, wherein the configuration module which, when executed by the processor, further causes the computer to issue identification requests to the detected components on each of the active slave addresses, the identification requests commanding each of the detected components to respond with identification information associated therewith.

35. (Original) A system as defined in claim 34, wherein the identification requests comprise a standard request operable for commanding all components which may be communicatively connected to the management module to respond with identification information.

36. (Previously Presented) A system as defined in claim 34, wherein each of the plurality of description files comprises an identification routine executable by the management module to create and transmit the identification request to components communicatively accessible on slave addresses, wherein the identification request commands the component corresponding to the description file to respond with a specific acknowledgement response that the component is communicatively accessible on the active slave address on which the identification request was transmitted.

37. (Previously Presented) A system as defined in claim 36, wherein the configuration module which, when executed by the processor, further causes the computer to execute the identification routine of one of the plurality of description files to effectuate transmission of the identification request on a particular active slave address and subsequently thereafter await reception of the specific acknowledgement response requested by the identification request.

38. (Previously Presented) A system as defined in claim 37, wherein the configuration module which, when executed by the processor, further causes the computer to identify the component detected on the particular active slave address as the component corresponding to the executed description file if the specific acknowledgement response is received within a predetermined period in time and link the executed description file to the particular slave address in the configuration file.

39. (Previously Presented) A system as defined in claim 38, wherein the configuration module which, when executed by the processor, further causes the computer to execute the identification routine of the description file on at least one other active slave address if the specific acknowledgement response is not received from the particular active slave address within a predetermined period in time.

40-41. (Cancelled).

42. (Original) A system as defined in claim 31, wherein the management module is a baseboard management controller implemented on a baseboard of the computer system.

43-49. (Cancelled)

50. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium storing computer executable instructions which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform a method for configuring a management module for use in monitoring operations associated with a computer system, the method comprising:

(a) prior to the management module being configured to monitor a plurality of components communicatively connected to the management module and analyze, based on the monitored plurality of components, whether an event has occurred in the computer system, discovering a previously undiscovered first component of the plurality of components communicatively connected to the management module by querying a plurality of slave addresses, wherein the first component at a first slave address of the plurality of slave addresses is discovered upon responding to the query, and wherein the first component senses and provides to the management module operational information relating to operations associated with the computer system;

(b) identifying a type of information provided by the detected first component;

(c) creating a configuration file specifying the type of information identified for the detected first component; and

(d) incorporating the configuration file into the management module such that the management module is configured to receive the identified type of information from the detected first component and analyze, based on the identified type of information from the detected first component, whether an event has occurred in the computer system;

(e) defining a plurality of description files, each description file corresponding to a component which may be included within a configuration for the computer system, wherein the plurality of description files each specify a component classification for the component corresponding to each description file and the type of information that may be provided by the component;

wherein each of the plurality of description files comprises an identification routine executable by the management module to create and transmit an identification request to components communicatively accessible on slave addresses;

wherein the identification request commands the component corresponding to the description file to respond with a specific acknowledgement that the component is communicatively accessible on a particular slave address, the identifying act (b) comprising

(b)(i) extracting one of the plurality of description files,

(b)(ii) executing the identification routine specified in the extracted description file such that the identification request is transmitted on the first slave address,

(b)(iii) if the specific acknowledgement is received from the first component on the first slave address, linking the first component to the extracted description file,

(b)(iv) if the specific acknowledgement is not received from the first component within a predetermined period in time, repeating the extracting and executing acts for another one of the plurality of description files until the identification information is received from the first component;

wherein the creating act (c) comprises incorporating the description file linked to the first component into the configuration file.

51. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium as defined in claim 50, wherein the management module is operable to communicate with the plurality of components of the computer system by way of a plurality of active slave addresses on a communication medium of the computer system, the plurality of active slave addresses being a subset of a plurality of

possible slave addresses communicatively accessible to the management module by way of the communication medium, the detecting act (a) comprising:

(a)(i) transmitting a discovery request on each of the plurality of possible slave addresses; and

(a)(ii) responsive to the transmitting act, receiving an acknowledgement response from the first component indicating that the first component is communicatively accessible on a specific active slave address.

52. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium as defined in claim 51, wherein the receiving act (a)(ii) comprises:

receiving a plurality of acknowledgement responses from a specific plurality of the plurality of components, each acknowledgement response representing detection of each of the specific plurality of components on one of the plurality of active slave addresses, wherein the first component is one of the specific plurality of components and the specific active slave address is one of the plurality of active slave addresses on which at least one of the specific plurality of components is detected.

53. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium as defined in claim 52, wherein the transmitting act (a)(i) comprises:

(a)(i)(I) issuing a discovery request on a possible slave address; and

(a)(i)(II) after a predetermined period in time has passed from which the discovery request was issued on the slave address, repeating the issuing act until each of the plurality of possible slave addresses have been pinged.

54. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium as defined in claim 53, wherein the detecting act (a) further comprises:

(a)(iii) in response to receiving the acknowledgement responses from each of the specific plurality of components, adding the active slave addresses from which the acknowledgement responses are received to a log file, wherein the log file, when complete, comprises a listing of each of the plurality of active slave addresses.

55. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium as defined in claim 54, wherein the identifying act (b) comprises:

(b)[[(i)]] (v) traversing the listing in the log file to extract therefrom an active slave address;

(b)[[(ii)]] (vi) issuing an identification request to the extracted active slave address;

(b)[[(iii)]] (vii) receiving information from one of the specific plurality of components communicatively accessible on the extracted active slave address; and

(b)[[(iv)]] (viii) analyzing the received information to identify a type of information provided by the component communicatively accessible on the extracted active slave address.

56. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium as defined in claim 55, wherein the extracted active slave address is the specific active slave address and the one of the specific plurality of components is the first component.

57. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium as defined in claim 55, wherein the identifying act (b) further comprises:

(b)[[(v)]] (iv) repeating the traversing (b)[[(i)]] (v), issuing (b)[[(ii)]] (vi), receiving (b)[[(iii)]] (vii) and analyzing (b)[[(iv)]] (viii) act for each of the plurality of active slave addresses included in the listing, wherein the configuration file is created by the creating act to specify the type of information identified for each of the specific plurality of components such that when the configuration file is incorporated into the management module, the management module is consequently operable to receive the identified types of information from each of the specific plurality of components.

58-86. (Cancelled).